

Attachment B

Statement of Interest – Statewide Long -Term Care Reform *Format for Response to Request for Information/Proposals* *Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services*

Organization Name (s) (List all public and private entities represented by this statement of interest.):

The Arc Eau Claire: Advocating Rights of Citizens with Cognitive Disabilities, Inc. (The Arc Eau Claire) and Northwest Wisconsin HomeCare.

Contact Person and Contact Person's Organization (List name, address, telephone number, email and fax number.):

Barbara Shafer, Executive Director

The Arc Eau Claire

515 South Barstow, Suite 110

Eau Claire, WI 54701

Phone, 1-715-834-7204

email, thearcec@execpc.com (Our email address is being changed please contact by another means until we are able to send our new email address to you)

Fax number, 1-715-834-7416.

Brief Description of Organization (Legal entity status, purpose, scope of enterprise):

The following is the Mission of The Arc Eau Claire: Advocating Rights of Citizens with Cognitive Disabilities, Inc., a 501-C3-advocacy organization (The Arc Eau Claire):

(To) Promote the general welfare of people with cognitive disabilities and other developmental disabilities and secure for them the opportunity to choose and realize their goals relative to life and living options. The same social and community benefits, opportunities, and accesses to services and programs shall be available to all individuals regardless of whether or not they have a disability.

It is the goal of The Arc Eau Claire that the inherent value of all individuals be recognized and that each of society's members have equal and full access to community participation. The Arc Eau Claire accepts the responsibility for promoting the general welfare of individuals with disabilities through the provision of advocacy, family support, education, leadership, and human resources.

The Arc Eau Claire currently provides two major programs, a Case Management Program and a Corporate Guardianship Program. Our Corporate Guardianship Program is licensed by the State of Wisconsin to provide services to up to 70 and currently serves fifty-three individuals.

Our Case Management Program began in February 1993, with us representing both the State of Wisconsin and a fictitious county, "Wilson County". Wilson County was created by what was then the Wisconsin Department of Health and Human Services. Wilson County was invented to

make it possible for a lady living at Northern Wisconsin Center (NWC) to be moved into a residential setting here in Eau Claire. Wilson County no longer exists, but while it existed, The Arc Eau Claire contracted for and monitored all the services except medical, for five (5) individuals, who were the responsibility of "Wilson" County, now Milwaukee

Currently, The Arc Eau Claire a 501-C3 agency, is under contract with eight counties to provide Case Management services to sixteen individuals who live in the counties of Eau Claire, Dunn or Chippewa. Most moved to the Chippewa Valley upon leaving Northern Wisconsin Center (NWC). The contracting counties remain morally and financially responsible, but their social workers are at a distance which prohibits provision of quality services. We are also representative payee for fourteen of these individuals.

Northwest Wisconsin HomeCare (NWHC) is private, not-for-profit, state-licensed and federally certified home health and hospice agency established in 1984. The NWHC corporation is affiliated with Luther Midelfort, a hospital and clinic entity based in Eau Claire.

NWHC provides home health, hospice and personal care to patients in eleven counties from four locations. A sister corporation, Northwest Wisconsin Supportive HomeCare (NWSHC), provides medical house calls, geriatric care management, and supportive care services.

The agency has a history of successful program development and management. 175 employees and 40 volunteers make 4,000 visits each month to provide care to people in the place they call home.

Interest in Planning and Implementation of Long-Term Care Reform in Wisconsin:

The Arc Eau Claire and Northwest Homecare are interested in carving out a small population of people to receive very specific services as part of the long-term care redesign effort. Our intention is to put together team(s) that will provide the necessary oversight and services needed by a group of people with cognitive disabilities who are currently receiving services from The Arc Eau Claire, as well as other individuals living in our region who are receiving contracted Case Management services.

Between the direct services that our agencies have historically provided we are well positioned to oversee the care for these individuals. Our agencies already provide: Case Management; in home nursing care; hospice care; and have formal and informal contracts with a far reaching network of providers of additional and needed services

In a conversation, December 23, 2005, with Victoria Strobel, Director, Business Development, Marshfield Clinic, it was agreed that we have further discussions to possibly pursue bringing Marshfield Clinic into our coalition.

Geographic Area of Interest (List counties within the potential planning and service area of the entity or consortium.):

Eau Claire, Chippewa, Dunn, portions of Buffalo, Pepin, Barron , Rusk, Taylor, St. Croix, Pierce, and Clark.

Proposed Scope and Nature of the Program (including target groups to be served, benefit package to be offered, and rationale for this proposal in terms of fiscal soundness and program effectiveness)

The Arc Eau Claire and Northwest Wisconsin HomeCare (NWHC) are interested in creating a Family Care Program to serve the individuals already on The Arc Eau Claire's case load as well as any other individuals who are developmentally disabled who are living in Eau Claire and the surrounding counties, outside of their "county of responsibility".

We fear that when the state begins contracting with new care management programs (either the Family Care model or the partnership model) these people will be displaced from their homes, moved into the newly formed care-management geographic area, as a money saving strategy. During the past few years, these individuals have already had to make extremely disrupting moves, mostly from NWC. They are now established and secure in their new homes with continuity in medical care, care providers, families (in some cases) and us as Case Managers.

The Arc Eau Claire has for eleven years provided Case Management in the Eau Claire area serving up to 24 individuals at one time. This agency has been responsible for locating, managing, coordinating and monitoring all services and informal community supports needed by an individual. Services consist of the following: information and referral, arranging for provision of services completion of level of care documents, monitoring and review of services, service coordination, crisis intervention, case counseling, case planning, assessment, diagnosis and referral assistance to safe and appropriate housing, day programming, and leisure programs, etc.

We have monthly meetings at which all case planning and reviews focus on individual progress in meeting goals and objectives. Follow-along is provided to ensure quality of care. Additional face-to-face and collateral contacts with direct service providers, and with the individual, help enable participants to receive a full range of appropriate services in a planned coordinated, efficient and effective manner. Complete files are maintained on each person including intake materials, services plans, correspondence and daily log notes. The individual's county social worker and a representative from the State C.I.P. Follow Along Program oversee services. Networks for both The Arc Eau Claire and NWHC already include all regional residential, vocational, day care, home health care agencies.

Both The Arc Eau Claire and NWHC are fiscally sound agencies with very different financial structures and benefit packages. We are aware that consideration for our proposal is tenuous as it is outside the State's proposed vision and scope. Therefore, our conversations have been limited not including shared fiscal responsibility, budget packages, etc. Obviously, the

potential for financial backing for our proposal would be greatly enhanced if conversations with Marshfield Clinic prove productive.

Other Comments or Information:

We have not put together a budget for further pursuing this idea in 2006. We present this initial concept to you purely to ascertain if a program of such limited scope (in terms of the number of individuals served) would be at all considered.